

**City of Somerville, Massachusetts**  
**Matters of Business of the City Council**

**REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

April 7, 2020, 7:00 PM  
Meeting by Remote Participation  
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**NOTICE**

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. C. 30A, s. 18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, as well as Mayor Curtatone's Declaration of Emergency, dated March 15, 2020, this meeting of the City Council will be conducted via remote participation. We will post an audio recording, audio-video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of these proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting on the City of Somerville website and local cable access government channels.

**Copy & paste the following link into your internet browser to view this meeting live:  
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/826423032073642508>.**

**OPENING CEREMONIES**

1. Roll Call            Call of the Roll.  
(ID # 22879)
  
2. Remembrances    Remembrances.  
(ID # 22880)
  
3. Minutes            Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting, March  
(ID # 22881)        12, 2020.

**CITATIONS**

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

4. Grant of            Submitted by Eversource to install 56 feet of conduit in  
Location            the intersection of Linden Avenue and Elm Street from  
(ID # 22858)        Pole 112/6A to a point of pickup at 36 Elm Street.
  
5. Grant of            Submitted by Eversource to install 72 feet of conduit in  
Location            Oak Street from utility pole 258/2 to a point of pickup at  
(ID # 22859)        5 Oak Street.
  
6. Grant of            Submitted by Eversource to install 21 feet of conduit in  
Location            Clyde Street from utility pole 74/4 to a point of pickup at  
(ID # 22860)        28 Clyde Street.

7. Grant of Location (ID # 22861) Submitted by Eversource to install 35 feet of conduit in Garfield Avenue from pole 139/2 to a point of pickup at 6 Garfield Avenue.
8. Grant of Location (ID # 22862) Submitted by Eversource to install 138 feet of conduit in Somerville Avenue and Laurel Street from Manhole #8639 to a new Manhole #30989 on Laurel Street, then install 36 feet of conduit from that manhole to a point of pickup at the rear of 515 Somerville Avenue.
9. Grant of Location (ID # 22863) Submitted by Eversource to install 70 feet of conduit in Broadway from manhole #2572 to a new handhole in front of Trum Field.
10. Grant of Location (ID # 22864) Submitted by Eversource to install 80 feet of conduit in Broadway from manhole #2569 to a new handhole at the intersection of Broadway and Dexter Street.

**ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS OF MEMBERS**

11. Order (ID # 22870) By City Councilor Mbah, Niedergang  
That the Chief of Police and the Chief Fire Engineer appear before this Council's Committee on Public Health and Public Safety with an update on their plans to keep first responders safe during the COVID-19 pandemic.
12. Order (ID # 22871) By City Councilor Mbah  
That Director of Health and Human services provide this Council with evidence-based research on handling postal mail without protective equipment with respect to the spread of the coronavirus.
13. Resolution (ID # 22875) By City Councilor McLaughlin  
That the Administration take measures to ensure that first responders and essential personnel are prioritized for COVID-19 testing for personal and public safety purposes.
14. Order (ID # 22876) By City Councilor McLaughlin  
That the Director of Communications broadcast remote meetings of this Council and its Committees on cable access television and coordinate with the Somerville Media Center to ensure all three channels are broadcasting remote meetings and COVID-19 related items.
15. Order (ID # 22877) By City Councilor McLaughlin  
That the City Solicitor draft an ordinance formally recognizing domestic partnerships.

16. Resolution (ID # 22869) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen  
That the Administration update this Council on opportunities to provide universal broadband internet access in Somerville.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

17. Resolution 209284 By City Councilor Scott  
Supporting House Resolution 702, The People's Justice Guarantee.
18. Resolution 209931 By City Councilor Mbah  
That, in the event of a shelter in place order, this Council urges Governor Baker to activate all means necessary to support residents, such as no rent payments, no evictions, no tickets, and no loan repayments, until the order is lifted.
19. License/Permit 209973 New Extended Hours License, Dunkin Donuts, 282 Somerville Avenue, for 24/7 operation for in-store and take-out service only.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

20. LAND USE COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 22867) Report of the Committee on Land Use, meeting on March 31, 2020.

21. PUBLIC HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 22866) Report of the Committee on Public Health and Public Safety, meeting as a Committee of the Whole on March 30, 2020.
- B. Resolution 209939 By City Councilor Ewen-Campen, Scott, Clingan, Ballantyne, Davis, Niedergang, Rossetti, McLaughlin, Hirsch, Mbah, White Jr.  
That the Administration create a task force to begin mid-to long-term logistical planning for a possible reduced workforce, in case this State of Emergency continues for an extended period.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- C. Resolution 209941 By City Councilor Ewen-Campen, Ballantyne, Clingan, Scott  
That the Administration coordinate with local charitable organizations to create a centralized fund to provide direct support to front line workers, residents, and local businesses most in need.

- RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- D. Order 209944 By City Councilor Niedergang, Ewen-Campen, Scott, Rossetti, Ballantyne, Davis, Hirsch, White Jr., Clingan That the Director of SPCD, the Commissioner of Public Works, and the Director of Parks and Recreation consider turning some or all Neighborways into modified pedestrian-only areas (allowing cars only for residents and their essential visitors), to relieve the current congestion on the Community Path and some sidewalks.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed

**22. PUBLIC HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

- A. Committee Report (ID # 22868) Report of the Committee on Public Health and Public Safety, meeting as a Committee of the Whole on April 6, 2020.
- B. Resolution 209936 By City Councilor Mbah, Ewen-Campen, Clingan That this Council calls on landlords and real estate agents to avoid showing occupied units to avoid the spread of coronavirus.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed

**COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR**

23. Mayor's Request (ID # 22872) Requesting the appropriation of \$109,453 from the Receipts Reserved-Insurance Reimbursement Account to the Information Technology Ordinary Maintenance Account to pay for water damage to equipment.
24. Mayor's Request (ID # 22873) Requesting the appropriation of \$53,570 from the Receipts Reserved for Appropriation-Insurance Reimbursement Account to the DPW Admin Repairs and Maintenance Account to pay for water damage in the IT Department.
25. Mayor's Request (ID # 22841) Requesting confirmation of the re-appointment of Eliza Johnston to the Commission on Energy Use and Climate Change.

**COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS**

26. Officer's Communication (ID # 22874) Retirement Board notifying this City Council of a vote at the Retirement Board's May 28, 2020 meeting regarding a 2020 Cost of Living Adjustment for eligible retirees.

**NEW BUSINESS**

27. License/Permit (ID # 22845) Renewing Drainlayer's License, Your Space Landscape and Construction.

28. License/Permit (ID # 22846) Renewing Drainlayer's License, RM Pacella.
29. License/Permit (ID # 22847) Renewing Drainlayer's License, FE French Construction.
30. License/Permit (ID # 22842) Renewing Flammables License, Hillside Auto Repair, 583 Broadway.
31. License/Permit (ID # 22848) Renewing Garage License, Mercedes Benz of Boston, 19 Joy St.
32. License/Permit (ID # 22849) Renewing Garage License, Herb Chambers I-93, 259 McGrath Hwy.
33. License/Permit (ID # 22850) Renewing Garage License, Herb Chambers I-93, 71 Linwood St.
34. License/Permit (ID # 22851) Renewing Garage License, Mercedes Benz of Boston, 161 Linwood St.
35. License/Permit (ID # 22852) Renewing Garage License, Mercedes Benz of Boston Commercial Vans, 161 Linwood St.
36. License/Permit (ID # 22853) Renewing Garage License, Triumvirate Environmental, 191 Inner Belt Rd.
37. License/Permit (ID # 22854) Renewing Garage License, Chicken and Shakes Automotive, 6 Beach Ave.
38. License/Permit (ID # 22843) Renewing Outdoor Parking License, Mercedes Benz of Boston, 161 Linwood St.
39. License/Permit (ID # 22844) Renewing Billiards and Bowling License, Parise's Cafe, 97 Washington St.
40. License/Permit (ID # 22865) Small Wireless Facility License, ExteNet installing small wireless facilities on a replacement pole at 10 Radcliffe Road.
41. License/Permit (ID # 22668) Renewing Taxi Medallion License, Edelle Cab, Med #20.
42. License/Permit (ID # 22855) Renewing Taxi Medallion License, 32 Summer St Corp, Med #29.

- 43. License/Permit (ID # 22667) Renewing Taxi Medallion License, SJP Taxi, Med #45.
- 44. License/Permit (ID # 22857) Renewing Taxi Medallion License, Silva Cab, Med #83.
- 45. License/Permit (ID # 22856) Renewing Taxi Medallion License, Michael Cab, Med #88.

**SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS**

- 46. Order (ID # 22884) By City Councilor Ballantyne  
That the Election Commissioner discuss mailing absentee applications to registered voters for the upcoming primary and general elections.
- 47. Order (ID # 22885) By City Councilor Ballantyne  
That the Chief of Police discuss what may be done to curb domestic and partner violence especially during the COVID-19 crisis, as victims are quarantined with their abusers.
- 48. Order (ID # 22886) By City Councilor Hirsch  
That the Director of Health and Human Services explain the current protocol for notifying residents of positive COVID-19 tests and contacts and how services may be offered that allow them to receive treatment, maintain household stability, and isolate themselves as needed.
- 49. Order (ID # 22887) By City Councilor Hirsch  
That the Board of Assessors extend the deadline for applications for Residential and/or Statutory Exemptions beyond the current April 1 deadline.

**LATE ITEMS**

**ADJOURNMENT**